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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01678 030053Z

64
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /070 W
---------- 065444
P R 020930Z SEP 75
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4355
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1678

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJECT: RED FLAG ATTACK ON TRADITIONAL NOVEL AS EXAMPLE OF
"CAPITUALATIONISM"

1. DEPARTMENT AND HONG KONG AT LEAST PRESUMABLY WERE
ALERTED BY FBIS OF AUGUST 28 PEOPLE'S DAILY'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT
RED FLAG NO. 9 WOULD CARRY A MAJOR ATTACK ON THE
TRADITIONAL NOVEL "SHUI HU CHUAN" AS NEGATIVE TEACHING
MATERIAL ON WHAT CAPITUALATIONISM IS ALL ABOUT.
THEY WILL ALSO BY NOW HAVE SEEN THE BBC-FBIS TRANSLATIONS
OF RED FLAG'S COMMENTARY ON THIS NOVEL
AS CARRIED IN THE AUGUST 31 PEOPLE'S
DAILY. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE HARD COPY OF RED FLAG
AND WILL BE COMMENTING FURTHER BUT FOR THE MOMENT
WANT TO NOTE TWO INDICATIONS FOR THE CHINHE READERSHIP
THAT MAO HIMSELF IS ASSOCIATED FROM THIS OBVIOUSLY
MAJOR DEPARTURE. FIRST, THE FRONT PAGE OF THE
AUGUST 28 PEOPLE'S DAILY CARRYING IN THE USUAL PLACE THE
FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF RED FLAG NO. 9'S TABLE OF CONTENTS
WAS DEVOTED OTHERWISE ENTIRELY TO MAO'S AUGUST 27 MEETING
WITH CAMBODIAN LEADERS AND FEATURED THREE LARGE PICTURES
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OF MAO SHAKING HANDS WITH HIS VISITORS. SECOND, THE

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CHAIRMAN'S APPROBATION OF LU HSUN, THE REPUBLICAN ERA
WRITER WHOSE BRIEF CRITICISM OF THIS NOVEL PROVIDES
THE THEME OF THE ATTACK, IS EMPHASIZED BY A BOLD FACE
MAO QUOTATION IN PRAISE OF LU HSUN FACING THE PAGE THAT IS
DEVOTED TO LU HSUN'S COMMENTS ON THE NOVEL.

2. THE RED FLAG ATTACK ON SHUI HU CHUAN WAS PRECEDED
BY SIMILAR MATERIAL IN THE PEKING GUANG MING HIH PAO
OF AUGUST 23 AND AUGUST 30, COPIES OF WHICH MAY
HAVE REACHED HONG KONG BY NOW.
THAYER

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